Statement

State-wise details of the applications receivd under the Bed and Breakfast scheme

Sl. No.	State	Applications received	Establishments approved
1.	Delhi	300	190
2.	Haryana	59	15
3.	Uttar Pradesh	54	18
4.	Rajasthan	17	08
5.	Maharashtra	17	16
6.	Himachal Pradesh	05	02
7.	Uttarakhand	04	02
8.	Karnataka	05	04
9.	Puducherry	01	01
10.	Madhya Pradesh	01	01
11.	Goa	01	01
12.	Chhattisgarh	01	Nil
13.	West Bengal	01	Nil
14.	Gujarat	01	Nil

Ministry of Tourism has not received any application from the remaining States and Union Territories.

Tourism potential in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar

2471. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the vast and varied tourism potential of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the places/units which have been identified for being developed as potential tourist spots during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(d) whether any integrated planning has been done for development of these places;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the total allocation proposed to be made on these places?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (f) Development and promotion of tourism is undertaken primarily by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for tourism related projects which are identified in consultation and interaction with them under the scheme, 'Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits'.

Project proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territories that are complete in all respects are approved on the basis of *inter-se* priority and funds released subject to availability under respective head.

During the year 2007-08, of the Eleventh Plan the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, sanctioned Rs. 2783.03 lakh to the Government of Uttar Pradesh and Rs. 1194.75 lakh to the Government of Bihar for development and promotion of tourism.

Funds for infrastructure development for tourism promotion

2472. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allocated to various States, particularly Himachal Pradesh, for the current financial year to develop infrastructure in order to promote tourism;

(b) the funds released so far to Himachal Pradesh for development of events like Himalayan Car Race, Great Himalayan Marathon and Mountain biking etc.;

(c) whether any Committee has been constituted to monitor the progress of the work in the State; and

(d) if so, what have been the findings of the said Committee?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) Development of infrastructure for promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations. Ministry of Tourism, however, provides financial assistance to States/Union Territories on the basis of project proposals received from them subject to availability of funds and *inter-se* priority. There is no State-wise allocation of funds. During 2007-08, Rs. 645.13 crore was sanctioned for 277 projects for development and promotion of tourism in the country. Out of this Rs. 22.86 crore was sanctioned for 12 projects in Himachal Pradesh.

(b) Rs. 0.16 crore was released for events of Mountain Biking, Himalayan Adventure Race and Great Himalayan Marathon in Himachal Pradesh during 2007-08.

(c) and (d) Implementation of tourism projects is the responsibility of the State

Bottled water plants

2473. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether an environment research group The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) has recently conducted studies on pockets all over the country where MNC's bottled water plants are located;

(b) whether the study found that the company's use of scarce water sources call for regulation due to worsening water situation and a source of stress to the communities around especially in Kaladera in Rajasthan; and

(c) whether the Centre would ensure that licences for setting up mineral water bottle plants are restricted to water abundant areas with constant monitoring of ground water level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As per available reports, 'The Energy Research Institute' (TERI) conducted an independent assessment of a company's water management policies and practices.